

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 187106 TOSEC 080213  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY H:RGBECKEL:AV  
APPROVED BY D:WCHRISTOPHER  
S/S JETHYDEN

-----042020 090211Z /62  
O 090140Z AUG 77 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 187106 TOSEC 080213

NODIS  
FOR THE SECRETARY FROM CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR/PM

SUBJECT: PANAMA CANAL ACTIVITY

1. THE PRESIDENT SENT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO MEMBERS OF  
CONGRESS BY DOMESTIC TELEGRAM SUNDAY EVENING, AUGUST 7.

2. BEGIN QUOTE: TODAY AMBASSADORS BUNKER AND LINOWITZ  
RETURNED TO PANAMA AND IT APPEARS THAT NEGOTIATIONS FOR A  
NEW TREATY MAY BE CONCLUDED VERY SOON. I BELIEVE YOU WILL  
BE GRATIFIED BY THE RESULT AND BELIEVE THE PUBLIC WILL

FIND WE HAVE ACHIEVED MUCH MORE THAN HAD BEEN EXPECTED.  
I EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO ANNOUNCE CONCEPTUAL AGREEMENT SHORT-  
LY, AND PLEDGE MY BEST EFFORT TO SHOW THE PUBLIC THAT THE  
TREATY WILL ADVANCE OUR LEGITIMATE NATIONAL SECURITY  
INTERESTS. I HOPE YOU CAN SUPPORT THE TREATY. IN ANY  
CASE, I URGE YOU TO RESERVE JUDGMENT ON IT UNTIL YOU HAVE  
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AN OPPORTUNITY TO READ THE TREATY, DISCUSS WITH OUR NEGO-  
TIATORS, AND EXAMINE IT IN GREAT DETAIL. ONCE YOU HAVE, I  
AM CONFIDENT YOU WILL AGREE WITH ME THAT THE TREATY WILL  
PROVIDE THE BEST DEFENSE FOR THE CANAL AND LEAD TO IMPROVED

RELATIONS WITH PANAMA, ALL OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE  
CARIBBEAN. SIGNED JIMMY CARTER END QUOTE

3. ADDITIONALLY, A CABLE WAS SENT TO THOSE SENATORS, IDENTIFIED BY H, WHO HAVE INDICATED SUPPORT OF A NEW TREATY. THAT CABLE READS:

4. BEGIN QUOTE: TODAY AMBASSADORS LINOWITZ AND BUNKER RETURNED TO PANAMA AND IT APPEARS THAT NEGOTIATIONS FOR A NEW TREATY MAY BE CONCLUDED VERY SOON. I BELIEVE YOU WILL BE GRATIFIED BY THE RESULT, AND BELIEVE THAT THE PUBLIC WILL FIND WE HAVE ACHIEVED MUCH MORE THAN HAD BEEN EXPECTED. I EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO ANNOUNCE CONCEPTUAL AGREEMENT SHORTLY, AND PLEDGE MY BEST EFFORT TO SHOW THE PUBLIC THAT THE TREATY WILL ADVANCE OUR LEGITIMATE NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS. YOUR SUPPORT OF MY EFFORTS TO SEEK AN EQUITABLE TREATY HAS BEEN GRATIFYING. YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO ACHIEVE CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF THIS HISTORIC TREATY WHICH I BELIEVE WILL PROVIDE THE BEST DEFENSE FOR THE CANAL AND WILL LEAD TO IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH PANAMA, ALL OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN. SIGNED JIMMY CARTER END QUOTE.  
(BOTH TELEGRAMS WERE DRAFTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY H.)

5. HAMILTON JORDAN AT THE WHITE HOUSE HAS DEVELOPED AN ACTION PLAN FOR THE PANAMA CANAL ANNOUNCEMENT PROCEDURES. THE PLAN READS IN PART:

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6. BEGIN QUOTE: DAY ONE. (POSSIBLY WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY, AUGUST 10 OR 11.) PRESIDENT RECEIVES CONCEPTUAL AGREEMENT MEMORANDUM FROM NEGOTIATORS.

-- PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT CALL CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP TO DISCUSS TERMS OF CONCEPTUAL AGREEMENT, AND TO INFORM THEM OF PROBABLE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT CONCEPTUAL AGREEMENT HAS BEEN RECEIVED.

(STATE DEPT CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS WILL PREPARE MEMO WITH POSITIONS OF EACH MEMBER TO BE CALLED.)

-- POWELL GIVE BACKGROUND BRIEFING TO THE MEMBERS OF PRESS ON STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENT SCHEDULE, BASIC TERMS.

DAY TWO:

-- PRESIDENT DISCUSSES AGREEMENT WITH NEGOTIATORS.

-- PRESIDENT MEETS WITH NSC TO DISCUSS AGREEMENT TERMS.

-- PRESIDENT SENDS TELEGRAM TO ALL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

THIS WILL BE A SECOND TELEGRAM ADDITIONAL TO TELEGRAM  
CITED ABOVE. (THIS TELEGRAM WILL LIST SPECIFICS OF CON-  
CEPTUAL AGREEMENT.)

-- STATE DEPT MAILS TO ALL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS SUMMARY OF  
CONCEPTUAL DOCUMENT, JCS RESPONSES, PANAMA FACT SHEET.  
H WILL DISTRIBUTE THIS PACKET TO ALL HOUSE MEMBERS 24  
HOURS BEFORE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONCEPTUAL AGREEMENT.  
ALL SENATORS WILL RECEIVE INFORMATION IN TELEGRAM AS  
CITED ABOVE.

DAY THREE:

-- BRIEFING OF FULL CABINET BY LINOWITZ AND BUNKER, FOL-  
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LOWED BY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT BY PRESIDENT IN BRIEFING ROOM  
OF CONCEPTUAL AGREEMENT AND THE DATE AND PLACE OF THE  
SIGNING CEREMONY.

-- COMMENTS BY SUPPORTING CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS, ADMINI-  
STRATION FIGURES, AND PUBLIC FIGURES (SECRETARY OF STATE  
WILL PROBABLY BE ASKED TO MAKE A STATEMENT OF SUPPORT.  
INFORMATION ON STATEMENT TO FOLLOW WHEN CONFIRMED.)

DAY FOUR AND FOLLOWING:

-- PA PROGRAM WILL BEGIN. (PA WILL BE INVOLVED IN THIS  
PROGRAM.)

-- SIGNING CEREMONY. OPTION PAPER ON CEREMONY TO BE PRE-  
PARED BY NSC FOR PRESIDENT.

7. H IS WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE WHITE HOUSE TO COORDI-  
NATE CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATION. EVERY EFFORT IS BEING  
MADE TO INSURE THAT CONGRESSMEN RECEIVE INFORMATION PRIOR  
TO PUBLIC DISCLOSURE. ALTERNATIVE PLANNING IS ONGOING AND  
SUBJECT TO PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS. H WILL ADVISE  
SECRETARY IMMEDIATELY OF ANY CHANGES IN PLANNING.

CHRISTOPHER

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O JTHYDEN

APPROVED BY: S/S-O JTHYDEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 187106

NODIS

WHITE HOUSE FOR BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 187106 ACTION USDEL SECRETARY AUG 9.

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 187106 TOSEC 080213

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CHRISTOPHER UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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